

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An embroidery machine with a cap bill support device, the machine including a hat hoop
2 base frame, the device comprising:
3 a bill hook capable of physical attachment to said cap bill; and
4 a base support secured to said hat hoop base frame, said base frame receiving said bill
5 hook, thereby offering removable support of said cap bill when positioned adjacent to
6 said hat hoop base frame.

- 1 2. A device as in claim 1, wherein said hook is pivotally mounted to said base support.

- 1 3. A device as in claim 1, wherein said hook includes a substantially “L” shaped arm
2 including a foot enabling attachment to said cap bill.

- 1 4. A device as in claim 1, wherein said hook includes a clamp that is releaseably secured to
2 said cap bill.

- 1 5. A device as in claim 4, wherein said hook further includes an arm that is received by said
2 base support.

- 1 6. A device as in claim 5, wherein said arm is received by a lip hook on said base support.

7. A device as in claim 6, wherein said base support is comprised of a substantially flat plate including a lip hook.
 8. A device as in claim 7, wherein said substantially flat plate includes at least one mounting hole, thereby enabling mounting of said substantially flat plate to a peripheral flange on said hat hoop base frame.
 9. A device as in claim 7, wherein said substantially flat plate is mounted adjacent to a visor bracket mounted on said hat hoop base frame.
 10. A device as in claim 5, wherein said arm is received by a lip hook on a visor bracket, the visor bracket being mounted to said hat hoop base frame.
 - An embroidery machine of the type that is used in the embroidery of headgear and other products that have a protrusion such as a cap bill, the machine also including a hat hoop base frame and a hat rack, the improvement comprising:
 - a bill hook capable of physical attachment to said cap bill; and
 - a base support secured to said hat hoop base frame, said base frame receiving said bill hook, thereby offering removable support of said cap bill when positioned adjacent to said hat hoop base frame.

1 **12.** A machine as in claim 11, wherein said hook is pivotally mounted to said base support.

1 **13.** A machine as in claim 11, wherein said hook includes a substantially "L" shaped arm
2 including a foot enabling attachment to said cap bill.

1 **14.** A machine as in claim 11, wherein said hook includes a clamp that is releaseably secured
2 to said cap bill.

1 **15.** A machine as in claim 14, wherein said hook further includes an arm that is received by
2 said base support.

1 **16.** A machine as in claim 15, wherein said arm is received by a lip hook on said base
2 support.

1 **17.** A machine as in claim 16, wherein said base support is comprised of a substantially flat
2 plate including a lip hook.

1 **18.** A machine as in claim 17, wherein said substantially flat plate includes at least one
2 mounting hole, thereby enabling mounting of said substantially flat plate to a peripheral
3 flange on said hat hoop base frame.

1 **19.** A machine as in claim 17, wherein said substantially flat plate is mounted adjacent to a

2 visor bracket mounted on said hat hoop base frame.

1 **20.** A method of supporting a cap bill to facilitate the embroidery of a cap including the steps
2 of:

3 providing an embroidery device including:

4 a bill hook capable of physical attachment to said cap bill; and

5 a base support secured to said hat hoop base frame, said base frame receiving said bill
6 hook;

7 positioning a cap in said embroidery device adjacent to said hat hoop base frame;

8 displacing a portion of said cap bill toward said base support;

9 attaching said bill hook to said cap bill with said bill hook supported by said base support,
10 thus maintaining said cap bill in a displaced orientation.

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